

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

Inside Stories



Library Discussion, p.6 Poetry, p.4

VOL. 84, No. 40

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

August 26, 2021



Sarai DeSouza, Meegane Konchou, Sadie Swart and Isabela Martins work to return to shape after missing the 2020 high school sports season. See story on page 11.

Election 2021

## Ric Gordon files for Council

Challenger Ric Gordon is the first to file for city council. His nomination form has been certified by City Clerk Bonita Anderson. Candidate biographies are prepared by the candidates and will be published as they are received by the paper.

### Ric Gordon

Ric was born Brandon Ricardo (Ric) Gordon in Prince George's County on September 19, 1982, and he is a product of Prince George's County Public Schools. Gordon graduated from Morris College in 2004, obtaining his bachelor's degree in political science and pre-law with a minor in psychology. He went on to graduate studies for his master's degree in public administration.



Brandon Ric Gordon

Gordon is a practicing political scientist and serves in organizations throughout Greenbelt, such as chair of Greenbelt Voices Rising, at-large member of Greenbelt Community Foundation, vice chair of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board for Greenbelt, co-chair of Greenbelt Anti-Maglev Taskforce and vice president of Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) along with serving on three other boards and committees.

Gordon is a community activist within the city, holding various voter registration events and community rallies against community violence. He is often an advocate for his fellow neighbors in Franklin Park for the various needs and concerns they have between property management and the City of Greenbelt.

Gordon is a published author of three poetry books and is an active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and Prince Hall Freemasons of Warren Lodge #8.

Gordon resides in the Franklin Park community in Greenbelt West with his dog of more than a decade, a Pomeranian named Nix.

## Is There a Food Truck Hub Coming Soon to Greenbelt?

by Diane Oberg

On Wednesday, August 18 the Greenbelt City Council met in a worksession to discuss the possibility of hosting food trucks in Greenbelt. Economic Development Coordinator Charise Liggins has suggested the city determine the viability of a food truck program as part of a city economic business recovery program.

### County Regulations

Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hraby explained that food trucks are very heavily regulated in Prince George's County. In general, food trucks must operate as part of a

Food Truck Hub with at least two licensed vendors, a designated food hub coordinator and an approved food truck hub license from the Department of Permitting Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE).

Food Truck Hubs may only be located in the open area or parking lot or public rights-of-way of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission parks or recreation facilities under the control of that agency or within one-quarter mile of a Metro or MARC station. While the county authorizes up to 12 hubs, most

had let their licenses lapse during the pandemic, including the one at Capital Office Park.

In 2019, the county council passed a bill that created an additional option: municipalities are now authorized to establish Food Truck Hubs within their jurisdiction on city property. They must, however, follow all other county regulations, including getting a Food Truck Hub license for each location, only allowing licensed food truck operators to participate and having a designated hub coordinator. The city does not have the authority to waive county food truck regulations such as by allowing individual vendors to operate on city property/rights of way without being associated with a city-sponsored special event. It may not authorize food trucks on private property or rights-of-way. Municipalities can charge vendors up to \$75 per event.

One other option open to city property owners is to host a temporary Food Truck Hub in

See FOOD TRUCK, page 7

### Labor Day Festival

## A Glimpse of This Year's Labor Day Festival Events

The 65th Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Parade, will be smaller due to Covid-19 precautions, but up to 35 performance groups and community organizations will ensure that the show goes on. Council members will be the only political representatives.

Greenbelt Elementary PTA Used Book Sale will happen in a hybrid format, with stations in neighborhood front yards as well as in the town center.

Games for all ages will be happening throughout the weekend. Kids' fun includes diaper derby and all kinds of silly races. Adults can enjoy horseshoes, cornhole and table tennis. Youth and mixed ages can toss water balloons, try scavenger hunting, eat the most pies and tour Greenbelt by bicycle.

During Information Day on Saturday, get acquainted with Greenbelt's community groups and organizations and learn the latest news about their projects and services.

At the Craft Fair on Sunday, local crafters will display and offer for sale their handmade creations.

Food Trucks will provide a variety of fun foods this year, in lieu of the usual booths.

A Community Drum Circle for all ages and experience on Friday evening will be led by Katy Gaughan.

The Children's Pet Show on Saturday will welcome and award Greenbelt's greatest pets and their best buddies.

A Memorial Gathering and

See LABOR DAY, page 12

### What Goes On

Monday, August 30  
8 p.m., City Council Worksession: American Relief Plan Act Funds

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

## Voters to Weigh In on City Reparations Referendum

by Diane Oberg

At its August 9 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council agreed to place a referendum on the November 2 ballot. The referendum question will read as follows:

Do you vote yes or no to the following Referendum question:

The City Council of Greenbelt should establish a twenty-one (21) member Commission to review, discuss, and make recommendations related to local reparations for African American and Native American residents of Greenbelt.

The vote was 5 to 1 with Councilmember Silke Pope op-

posed and Councilmember Edward Putens absent. The referendum was proposed by Mayor Colin Byrd who in April sought to establish this committee through a council resolution. That resolution was discussed in some detail at the April 26 council meeting but failed when three council-members abstained from voting. This prevented the motion from receiving affirmative votes from a majority of the elected council-members, the charter requirement for approval of ordinances and resolutions (City of Greenbelt Charter, Section 8).

See REPARATIONS, page 9



PHOTO BY GLENN HARRIS

Amaranth are colorful in the late afternoon sun in the community garden named Henry's Hollow. See story on page 4.

# Letters to the Editor

## Greenbelt High Alumna Remembers

The photo of a Greenbelt High School class in last week's News Review, in the article about firefighter John Leyh, brought back many memories. I immediately spotted Mrs. Trucksess, longtime director of our Glee Club, in the front row. Larry Leyh, John's older brother, was in my Class of 1944. His sister Thelma Leyh graduated in 1943.

In case anyone is interested, I have a complete listing of graduates of Greenbelt High School in the years of its existence, 1938 to 1951. It was compiled in planning for the first all-class reunion, held in October 1982.

Kathleen Scott McFarland

## Painful, Unwelcoming Bench at Green Ridge



PHOTO BY BILL NORWOOD

Bench for residents and visitors at Green Ridge House

In recent months some of the residents of Green Ridge House have enjoyed the on-patio visits of Ms. Cat and myself – as snippets of life stories got shared.

## Both Local Volunteers, Blood Donors Needed

The blood drive on Friday, August 27 at the Community Center is fully booked, but appointments are available for a drive there on Friday, October 15 from 12:30 to 6 p.m. Register at [redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive](http://redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive). Walk-ins are not permitted during the ongoing pandemic, so register early for an appointment to make a life-giving donation.

The Red Cross needs new volunteers to support disaster shelters. Volunteers will help with reception, registration, food distribution, dormitory information, information collection and other vital tasks inside disaster shelters. Both entry- and supervisory-level opportunities are available.

They also need volunteers who can work in disaster shelters to address people's health needs and provide hands-on care in alignment with their professional licensure (registered nurse and licensed practical nurse/licensed vocational nurse). Daily observation and health screening for Covid-19-like illness among shelter residents may also be required. If you are an RN, LPN, LVN, APRN, NP, EMT, paramedic, MD/DO or PA with a current and unencumbered license, this position could be right for you.

Blood and platelet donors are needed. Eligible donors can help overcome the critical need for blood and ensure blood is readily available by making an appointment to give by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Trouble is that the bench provided for residents and visitors brings pain to this 80-year-old spine, because, instead of a back on the bench, there are only sharp edges of window frames and concrete.

[I complained in an email – no response.]

[I asked three residents to join me in my complaint, but they already knew that management would do nothing.]

What an unwelcome for visitors who may be considering becoming residents.

*Bill Norwood*

## Gambler's Ruin

I was surprised to read that the percentage of vaccinated people in zip code 20770 is only about 57 percent, fewer than the 60 percent vaccinated in the entire state. I have talked to two people who stated they will not get vaccinated. They quoted doctors whose works have been thoroughly discredited. I urge people to ask the following questions: have the statements of an anti-vaxxer doctor been documented in peer-reviewed journals; that is, have they been examined by objective reviewers – experts in the field, has the result been statistically validated and can it be replicated? In every case quoted to me by the anti-vaxxers, the conclusions were based upon anecdotal evidence, not by a representative sample of cases. The conclusions have not been validated statistically and cannot be considered reliable.

Statistics enables us to understand, describe and manage real world situations. For example, there's a 50/50 chance of tails or

heads when a coin is flipped. If a coin comes up heads five times in a row, many will think it's almost certain to come up tails on the next toss. But the odds are still 50/50. Anyone who keeps betting when the odds are less than 50 percent will ultimately become bankrupt. This behavior is known as the "gambler's ruin."

The anti-vaxxer is the same as a gambler betting on a continual run of good luck. They are betting that each exposure will not result in contracting Covid-19. However, given the current probability of contracting the illness with each exposure, this person will most likely be infected over time. This person is also gambling that they won't become hospitalized and could require a ventilator to breathe and stay alive.

I urge people to avoid the gambler's ruin, get vaccinated and not risk serious illness and the risk of spreading the disease to the rest of us.

*Shalom Fisher*

## UMD Reporter

*Melissa Signorini, a Maryland journalism major soon to graduate, is an intern writing for the News Review.*

PETE REPPERT



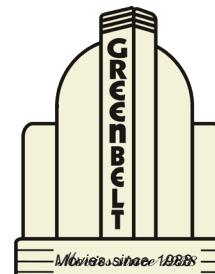
THEY'RE ALWAYS IN SEASON UP HERE, M'AM.

## Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Old Greenbelt Theatre

129 Centerway

301-329-2034

[www.greenbeltheatre.org](http://www.greenbeltheatre.org)

Members Always \$6.50!  
Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,  
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:  
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

**OC = Open Captions**

**CC = Closed Captions**

**DVS = Descriptive Video Service**

### SHOWTIMES

August 27th – August 30th

### ROADRUNNER: A FILM ABOUT ANTHONY BOURDAIN (R) (CC) (2021)

(118 MINS)

FRI. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

SAT. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

SUN. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:00 PM

MON. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

### MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the  
Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

## County Has Rent Help

Prince George's County is offering rent relief because of Covid-19. The county's 2021 Emergency Rental Assistance Program will help eligible applicants with payment assistance for rent and utilities. Landlords may also apply on behalf of their tenants. Applications will be accepted until funds are out. To apply and for more information visit [hcd.mypgc.us](http://hcd.mypgc.us) and click "Emergency Rental Assistance Program."

# Community Events

## Museum Will Host Outdoor Fair Judging

On Sunday, September 5, the Greenbelt Museum invites gardeners, bakers, canners and crafters to enter their items into the Retro Town Fair. Inspired by Greenbelt's earliest town fairs, this event is a small version of a county fair where ribbons are awarded to the best entries in each category: flowers and vegetables, baked goods, canned goods, needlework and crafts. Download, print and fill out an entry form at [greenbeltmuseum.org/exhibitsevents](http://greenbeltmuseum.org/exhibitsevents) (only one entry per person per category). Then drop off the item and form on the grounds of 10-A and 10-B Crescent between 10 and 11:30 a.m. on September 5. Judging will begin at 11:30. All entries will be displayed for public viewing from 1 to 4 p.m. All entries must be picked up no later than 5 p.m.

After careful consideration, the Museum has decided to do this event in person this year – all activities related to it will take place outside. They have temporarily suspended the Legacy Exhibition of hand-crafted family heirlooms for this reason. Masks are strongly encouraged on the Museum grounds and when interacting with staff and volunteers. They are closely tracking any changes in recommended Covid-19 precautions and will make updates accordingly.

Don't have a green thumb or skills in cooking or crafts but still want to be involved? The Fair team is always seeking volunteers to help with set-up, receiving entries, recording winners and take-down. To volunteer or with any questions, contact Sheila Maffay-Tuthill at [education@greenbeltmuseum.org](mailto:education@greenbeltmuseum.org). This event is free and is sponsored by the City of Greenbelt and the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum.

## HUG WALK Returns

RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) is again organizing the annual HUG WALK (Help Unite Greenbelt With A Little Kindness) to be held on Sunday, October 10, rain or shine.

All Greenbelters are invited to participate in this event, joining the walk in any of the Greenbelt neighborhoods noted below and continuing through the city. RUAK requests that any and all groups and individuals from the community co-sponsor this no-cost event. Spread the word and join your neighbors to celebrate Greenbelt as a special warm and welcoming place.

### Walk Schedule

1 p.m., gather at the Indian Creek Trail bridge at Greenbelt Station; 1:30 p.m., walk step off; 2 p.m., walk continues from Springhill Lake Recreation Center; 2:30 p.m., join the walk at Buddy Attick Park; 3 p.m., join the walk at Roosevelt Center; 3:30 p.m., join the walk at Greenbriar Community Center; 4 p.m., join the walk at Windsor Green Community Center; 4:30 p.m., walk concludes at Schrom Hills Park.

Any group that wishes to join more than 40 civic, social and religious groups that are already co-sponsoring the event should contact RUAK at [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com) or Robert Goldberg-Strassler at 301-345-8755 by September 26.

## Newspaper Giveaway Outside OGT Monday

Monday, August 30 will be the last opportunity to get free copies of past issues of the Greenbelt Cooperator and News Review at the Old Greenbelt Theatre (see page 6 article in July 29, 2021, issue). The papers will be available at a table outside the theater from about 3 to 4:30 p.m. so that matinee moviegoers and others can select one paper or a few to take home. Papers from 1996 to 2015 will be featured on Monday, but the remaining extra copies from earlier years will also be available. News Review staffers will be on hand to assist and answer questions. For more information, email [newsreview.archive@gmail.com](mailto:newsreview.archive@gmail.com).

## Festival of Lights Call for Artists

Artists, artisans, authors, illustrators and nonprofit groups are invited to apply through September 10 to participate in the Greenbelt Recreation Department's annual Juried Art and Craft Fair. Conditions permitting, the show will be held in person at the Community Center on December 4 and 5, and also online from November 26 through December 19. Vendors may participate on-site, online or both. The show features original wares created by participating artists. Media typically span a wide range from wood, glass, ceramic and metalwork to wall art, fiber arts, toys, books and edible goods. Kit crafts and imported crafts are not permitted, and additional restrictions apply. Information and applications are linked at [greenbeltd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltd.gov/arts).

## GCC Paper Drive For School Supplies

Greenbelt Community Church (GCC), United Church of Christ begins its Annual Paper Drive and Collection of School Supplies for local schools from August through mid-September. While nothing is certain, schools will open in some format and teachers and administrators will need paper, often an expense that school staff pay out of their own pockets. The church is looking for copy paper, lined paper, notebooks, composition books, index cards and construction paper.

In addition, many students will need school supplies this new school year. The church is asking for colored pencils, glue (stick and bottles), pencils, pens, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues, crayons, post-it notes, pocket folders, etc. Many of these items are on sale at local retailers in August and September and it is easy to add a few more items to a shopping cart or to online orders.

Donations can be dropped off at the church, 1 Hillside Road, on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (look for the office sign), or during Sunday services from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. To do-

name by check, make a check out to GCC and note "paper drive" on the envelope or check. Gift cards are also accepted.

GCC is grateful to the many people who have supported this drive in the past and will continue to give generously in the future.

## Toastmasters Meets Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club is virtual and invites all to join them online or by phone on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of every month at 7:30 p.m. Toastmasters provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving communication or leadership skills. Find details for participating remotely at [greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org](http://greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org).

## Photo and Art Shows Are Back, Virtually



PHOTO BY FLORY LEITZ

Last Rays, one of the Community Favorites from the 2020 Virtual Photo Show

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Art Show and Photo Show are back this year, virtually. To find more information, go to [GreenbeltLaborDay.com](http://GreenbeltLaborDay.com), hover over "Events/Activities" at the top, then click on "2021 Art Show" or "2021 Photo Show." The site contains information, flyers and online submission forms.

Art and photos can be submitted by filling out the online submission form and then emailing photos, pictures of artwork or 15-second videos of artwork to the email provided in the online submission form. The committee looks forward to celebrating Greenbelt artistic and photographic talent together.

The deadline to enter is Wednesday, September 1.

## Monday Meet Ups With Homeschoolers

Every Monday, Greenbelt homeschoolers will meet up from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Schrom Hills Park, weather permitting, beginning Monday, September 13.

These meet-ups offer free play and social support for families.

## Donate Sneakers For People in Need

The Board of Congregational Life at Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. This sneaker recycling program helps to keep sneakers out of landfills, where they have harmful effects on the environment, and will send the sneakers to countries where the poor often go barefoot out of necessity. For more information about GotSneakers, go to their website at [GotSneakers.com](http://GotSneakers.com).

A donation box for sneakers is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time. GotSneakers will pay GCC a varying amount for name-brand and off-brand laced-up sneakers with no tears inside or outside. The company even pays for cleaning and shipping – all GCC does is collect sneakers.



PHOTO BY HELENOR MESIAS

Peaches at Hamilton Place Garden Plots

## Astronomical Society Meets August 26

On Thursday, August 26 at 7:30 p.m. the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will hold a virtual (Zoom) meeting to present material and lead a discussion on the topic of dark matter and related issues, including dark energy, cosmological structure, relativistic and quantum mechanical considerations and the present state of physics. Dark matter has been hypothesized by astrophysicists to account for galactic motions which cannot be accounted for with normal matter alone. A basic problem is that dark matter cannot be seen.

All are welcome to join this event, whether members of ASG or not. For those interested, the Zoom session will open a half-hour early for meet-and-greet. A Zoom link will be posted before the meeting on the Astronomical Society's website, [greenbelastro.org](http://greenbelastro.org).

## Join Compost Tour At Roosevelt Center

On Saturday, September 4, during Information Day at the Labor Day Festival, join master composter Danny Lewis at 2 p.m. for an As-the-Worm-Turns tour of composting operations happening in the center of Greenbelt. Meet Lewis at the Green Team table in the Roosevelt Center plaza.

Lewis will lead a short walk to the three-bin hot composting station near the Aquatic Center, where food waste from the Co-op Supermarket is transformed into compost wormfood, followed by a visit to the worm condos behind the New Deal Café, where worms supercharge that compost. Learn about hot composting, worm composting and how volunteers are recycling organic waste from the food co-op and, coming very soon, food scraps from the New Deal Café as well.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.



## Greenbelt Access Television Aug 27, Fri – Sep 2, Thu

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77  
Streaming on [www.greenbeltaccesstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccesstv.org)

THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station

7am	<b>NEW SHOW! Premiere Episode!</b>	TeaFairy and Friends StoryTime Adventures
8am	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	<b>GATE Classic Film</b>	Of Human Bondage • Bette Davis
11am	<b>Strata</b>	Follows FILM on the half hour
Noon	<b>NEW SHOW! Premiere Episode!</b>	TeaFairy and Friends StoryTime Adventures
1pm	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	Today's Syndicated Program
2pm	<b>PGCPS Science Bowl</b>	Hyattsville v Longfields
3pm	<b>Music at the New Deal</b>	Blues Rhythms and Soul Grooves
5pm	<b>GATE Classic Film</b>	Of Human Bondage • Bette Davis
6pm	<b>Strata</b>	Follows FILM on the half hour
7pm	<b>PGCPS Science Bowl</b>	Hyattsville v Longfields
8pm	<b>NEW SHOW! Premiere Episode!</b>	TeaFairy and Friends StoryTime Adventures
9pm	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	Today's Syndicated Program
10pm	<b>Music at the New Deal</b>	Blues Rhythms and Soul Grooves
11pm	<b>Democracy Now!</b>	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	<b>NEW SHOW! Premiere Episode!</b>	TeaFairy and Friends StoryTime Adventures

Connect with GATE   
[www.greenbeltaccesstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccesstv.org)

# Diverse Gardeners Bring New Crops to Henry's Hollow

by Deanna Dawson



PHOTO BY GLENN HARRIS

Cocoyam thrives in a Henry's Hollow garden.

With the recent soaking rains, gardeners in Greenbelt's community garden fields have been able to shift from the drudgery of hauling water to fun chores like weeding, planting cool-season crops and harvesting the summer's bounty. In Henry's Hollow, the garden field across from the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. headquarters on Hamilton Place, the variety of crops grown has increased in recent years as the set of gardeners themselves has become more diverse. Among them are gardeners who are originally from Cameroon, Mexico, Laos, Tanzania, Thailand and other places. Now, bitter leaf, cocoyam (taro) and garden huckleberry – all grown for their leaves – as well as lemongrass, long beans, Thai basil, tomatillos and turmeric are growing beside the more traditional local crops of beans, okra, squash and tomatoes. As more Greenbelt gardeners grow these plants that originated in tropical or subtropical regions, they may unintentionally be making their gardens more resilient to climate change.

And, it's not all vegetables in Henry's Hollow. Many gardeners also grow flowers to attract butterflies, bees and other pollinators or to deter insect pests. And this reporter is again rearing tree frog tadpoles, which appeared in buckets of water in her garden in June and late July. The first tiny froglet of the season emerged on August 16.

*Deanna Dawson has been a Henry's Hollow gardener since the mid-1990s.*



PHOTO BY GLENN HARRIS

Butterflies are welcome in Henry's Hollow garden.



PHOTO BY EFFIE LEVNER

## Memorial Service For Bill Duncan

A celebration of the wonderful life of Bill Duncan will be held on Saturday, August 28 at the Cedar Ridge Community Church, 2410 Spencerville Road, Spencerville, Md.

The service will begin at 2 p.m. and will be live-streamed via Zoom for those who are unable to attend. There will also be a time of visitation from noon until the service begins. All are welcome to attend the visitation, memorial service or both.

Sign up to attend in person or to receive the Zoom link at [m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10c0c4ba9a82da02-celebrate](https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10c0c4ba9a82da02-celebrate).



## Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Reverend Rivera, Pastor



In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
Come meet our new pastor.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

For ZOOM link:

[FDeBernardo@aol.com](mailto:FDeBernardo@aol.com)

The Bible Says...  
Therefore if anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creature;  
the old things have passed away;  
behold, new things have come.  
2 Corinthians 5:17



IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services  
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School  
[MCFcc.org](http://MCFcc.org)

"The bedrock of a strategy that can engage the world's population in assuming responsibility for its collective destiny must be the consciousness of the oneness of humankind"

– Bahá'í International Community



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

## Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered  
Biblical  
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)



## ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am\*, Sat 9am\*
  - Sunday Mass:
    - Sat vigil 5pm\*
    - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
  - Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.
- For the time being, we will still be wearing masks.

CELEBRATE WITH US  
135 Crescent Rd.  
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## Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield  
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

All services and activities are currently virtual

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



**The Power of Symbols**

August 29 10 a.m.

**Rev. Diane Teichert**

Zoom video at <https://zoom.us/j/93495780708>

with Worship Associate Polly Pettit

Let's consider symbols—visual, music, words—with meaning in our personal, public, religious and political lives How do they get their power?

## At the Library

Greenbelt Library open hours are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m.; and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sidewalk service for held books is available outside the upper-level entrance (pickup reservation required), or requested books can be picked up on the shelves inside the library, as before. Study rooms are open but meeting rooms remain closed.

Appointments for one hour of computer use can be made up to seven days in advance at pgcmis.info/reopening or 240-455-5451; some computers may be available with no appointments. Shelved books are open for browsing without restrictions, no appointments required. The library is not accepting book donations for the foreseeable future but has a third-party book donation bin outside the lower-level entrance.

### Mobile Printing, Hotspots

The library offers mobile printing to the public. The first 10 black-and-white pages are free. More information is available at pgcmis.info/mobile-printing.

Families can borrow mobile hotspot devices for up to nine weeks at a time. Adults aged 18 and older with library cards in good standing may request a SmartSpot through the curbside booking form. One device per household may be borrowed.

### Learning Resources

Brainfuse HelpNow offers an array of additional learning resources for Prince Georgians, including SkillSurfer, a library of lessons, videos, tests and more, available year-round. The library also helps students prepare for standardized tests and writing college admissions essays through the EBSCO LearningExpress online resource. Check pgcmis.info/events regularly for related programming.



## City Notes

Preparation for Labor Day Weekend is intense, with Recreation staff planning fun alternatives to carnival and typical Festival activities.

With a stray dog impounded and two kittens adopted, the Animal Shelter hosts five dogs, five cats, eight kittens and a rabbit.

Refuse/Recycling collected 30.23 tons of refuse and 11.97 tons of recyclables.

Horticulture/Parks removed a fallen white oak.

Sustainability/Environmental held a Pollinator Circle meeting and organized 18 Eagle Scout volunteers replacing 30 tree cages and removing invasive vines around the lake.

Building Maintenance repaired a water leak in council chambers in the Municipal Building.

Fleet Maintenance repaired the airflow in bus 502.

Planning and Community Development staff attended court regarding a noise complaint.

The Community Center hosted a Greenbelt Assistance in Living program food and diaper distribution.

Therapeutic Recreation facilitated frozen meal delivery for 33 seniors.

Park rangers diplomatically relocated an unpermitted birthday party and supported a Greenbelt Volksmarchers event.



A large tree is cut down at Plateau Place.



Justin Young caught this large mouth bass at the Lake on Saturday, July 31.



# City Information & Events

*The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.*

### VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 3

Monday, August 30 at 8:00 p.m., COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: American Relief Plan Act Funds, Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and Streaming at www.greenbeltdmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, August 31 at 3:30 p.m., SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE. On the Agenda: GAIL Updates, Recruiting Members, Open Forum, Centenarian Recognition, Not For Seniors Only Event Update.

Wednesday, September 1 at 7:30 p.m., ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD On the Agenda: Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update, Approval of Agenda and Minutes.

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltdmd.gov).

### VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups.

There are currently vacancies on:

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Election
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Park & Recreation Advisory Board
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

For more information call 301-474-8000

### CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

#### NOMINATIONS FOR 2021 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available at 25 Crescent Road, beginning Monday, August 16, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. PLEASE RING THE DOORBELL AT THE CRESCENT ROAD ENTRANCE.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM  
MONDAY, AUGUST 16 THROUGH  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021.

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or e-mail [elections@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:elections@greenbeltdmd.gov).

### Calls for Artists



Apply through September 10 for Greenbelt Recreation's annual Juried Art and Craft Fair on December 4th and 5th.

Apply through September 17 for the fall Open Studio Tour on October 3rd.

Both events: hybrid format! Participate in person, online or both. Information and links at: [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/arts)

### Free Resources for City Residents

- Rental Assistance
- Mental Health Resources
- Anger Management Classes
- Parenting Classes
- Virtual GED Classes
- Tutoring Services
- Free Diapers
- Free Produce

Call 301-345-6660 or Email [cares@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:cares@greenbeltdmd.gov)  
Visit [greenbeltdmd.gov/cares](http://greenbeltdmd.gov/cares)



For more information, please visit our Virtual Recreation Center online at [greenbeltdmd.gov/recreation](http://greenbeltdmd.gov/recreation) or give us a call at 301-397-2200.

### Fall Activity Guide Now Available Online!

Registration begins on Monday, August 23 for Greenbelt Residents. Classes begin the week of September 6, 2021.

Explore our Activity Guide for lots of options for all ages and interests. We offer seasonal special events and varied recreation facilities and classes to provide opportunities for community celebrations, a chance to learn something new or improve your skills in an activity you enjoy, all while socializing and staying active!



### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH BRADEN FIELD

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 10am    | Diaper Derby for Crawlers and Toddlers         |
| 10:45am | 3-Legged Race                                  |
| 11am    | Water Balloon Toss                             |
| 11:30am | Pie Eating Contest                             |
| 1pm     | Scavenger Hunt for Youth, Adults, and Families |



### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD YOUTH CENTER

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 2pm | Hot Shot Basketball Contest & 2 Ball Tournament for Youth |
| 5pm | Table Tennis Tournament for Adults                        |



### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH NEW DEAL CAFE

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 9am   | Tour de Greenbelt by Bike |
| For more information visit <a href="http://greenbeltdmd.gov/recreation">greenbeltdmd.gov/recreation</a> |                           |

### BRADEN FIELD

- |         |                                 |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| 10am    | Egg/Spoon Race                  |
| 10:15am | Sack Race                       |
| 10:30am | Badminton                       |
| 11:30am | Water Relay                     |
| 1pm     | Cornhole Tournament for Adults  |
| 2pm     | Horseshoe Tournament for Adults |

### YOUTH CENTER

- |     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 1pm | Children's Bingo                  |
| 2pm | Table Tennis Tournament for Youth |



### SMALL FUNDS AVAILABLE for studying the ecology, history, and use of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve

The Greenbelt Forest Preserve is a 255-acre preserve owned by the City of Greenbelt, Maryland. As established by City Code in 2003, the land is "preserved in a natural state for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations." The City Council has established a fund to encourage research about the ecosystem and history of the Preserve, and improve stewardship of the Preserve. The fund will be dispersed as reimbursable grants to researchers for certain types of expenses. Anyone can apply. Preference will be given to projects with outputs that enhance the ability of the city to manage the Preserve.

Up to \$2,000 is available in 2021.

Request an application from [forestpreserve@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:forestpreserve@greenbeltdmd.gov). Visit <https://bit.ly/3xwhbgp> for more information.

## Library Discussion on ADA At 31 Features Teen Activist

by Melissa Signorini

Prince George's County Memorial Library System held a discussion on July 26, the 31st anniversary of the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The chat featured two guest speakers, both of whom are Prince George's County natives. One of the speakers, Greenbelter Findley Holland, is a disability activist and writer who was diagnosed with autism and other learning disabilities. The other guest was Christopher Neuhaus, a Washington, D.C., special education teacher. Both engaged in an informative hour-long discussion about the importance of the ADA, and each of their own experiences with disabilities.

Speaking on what ADA has done for her, Holland said that the legislation has "given me a bunch of rights to be able to not get fired from jobs, or to be able to live the way I am without having to worry about anything bad happening." With July also being disability pride month, Holland spoke of how happy she was to be able to celebrate being her authentic self.

She didn't always consider herself an activist, however. She realized that through her "advocacy" she found herself

### Vax Scholarships

In an effort to encourage Marylanders to protect themselves from Covid-19, the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) have set up a \$1 million VaxU Scholarship Promotion fund for vaccinated residents ages 12 to 17. The state is offering up to 20 scholarships during nine statewide drawings. Those who win will receive a \$50,000 scholarship through a Prepaid College Trust or a College Investment Plan from the Maryland 529 plans. The funds will go toward covering the cost of tuition and fees for a four-year college or university. Students who have a registered Maryland address at the time of their vaccination and who get vaccinated in Maryland (not at federal locations) will be automatically entered in the promotion for a chance to win.

Two winners will be selected each week on Mondays until September 6. On this, the last draw date, four winners will be selected. MDH will run the drawings, and every week a random generator will decide prize winners. Alternate winners will be selected in case original winners do not accept the prizes, are deemed ineligible or do not produce all necessary documentation and information to be validated as eligible.

For more information on eligibility and the promotion, visit the Maryland Higher VaxU Scholarship Promotion website. For all questions, email [VaxUScholarship.mhec@maryland.gov](mailto:VaxUScholarship.mhec@maryland.gov).

**The Best Dog I Never Owned.**

A story of a dog and his Lady

By Amber Hennessy

Available at Greenbelt Coop



PHOTO BY KYLIA HANINGTON

Findley Holland

getting easily frustrated and ranting to her friends. Once she came to terms with the idea that doing that "doesn't really do anything," she started having positive conversations, ones that saw her sharing information and resources with those around her. "I can't just be angry, I have to do something about it," she recalled thinking.

Neuhaus chimed in from time to time, offering up his own pieces of advice and thoughts about his own familiarity with the topic. He spoke in regard to the importance of advocacy work and disability rights, saying that "growing up and being disabled myself, having a role model or someone that I can look up to and see myself in is so important."

Both spoke about the delicacy of having and disclosing having a disability to others, which Holland attributed to the idea that society has left on us to not want to mention it. She spoke about what accommodations she has received with the help of the ADA, which included Individualized Education Program testing, a format that allowed her to take tests in smaller settings and with extra time. "The reason I am where I am today is because I've been able to have that extra support."

Holland graduated high school this year with a 4.0 GPA, and is set to attend Towson University in the fall.

The recorded discussion can be viewed at [youtube.com/watch?v=yELUGdMRtM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yELUGdMRtM).

## Principal Welcomes Students To Safe, In-person School Year

by Julie Rapp

Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) and the other schools that serve the Greenbelt community are welcoming students to the 2021-2022 academic school year with a return to in-person learning. In an August 18 letter posted on the school's website, ERHS Principal Reginald McNeill wrote, "We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to receiving and engaging in rich instruction, participating in extracurricular ac-

tivities that enhance the academic experience and interacting with their peers socially, embodying a full social, emotional and learning venture."

McNeill went on to say that teachers and staff will continue to provide students with an optimal learning environment and will follow the science to provide for a safe academic experience and, with the help of parents and the community, conquer any challenge. "We believe that each

and every student is capable of achieving at the highest level as we provide instructional support to ensure they reach Academic Excellence," he wrote.

The school year starts on Wednesday, September 8. All Greenbelt schools have their lists of required school supplies posted on the Prince George's County Public Schools website at [pgcps.org](http://pgcps.org). Once on the website, click on Schools and scroll or search for the school's name.

## There Is a Free Lunch . . . At County Public Schools

by Amy Hansen

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is paying for breakfast and lunch and in some cases dinner for all children enrolled in Prince George's County Public Schools, regardless of family income. The nationwide program allows the school system to provide up to three meals per day at no cost to the school or the student.

The decision to extend the USDA free meal program through June 2022 was made in April 2021, but since fewer students were in schools at that time, the impact was not immediately seen. Now, as students are poised to go back in person, schools are writing in welcome-back letters that everyone eats free.

"Student meals are free for all this school year! Students will be provided with free breakfast and lunch each day. They can also pick up a supper to take home at the end of the day," wrote Monica Gaines, principal of Greenbelt Elementary School. Gaines encourages parents to fill in the meal benefit application as well.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School Principal Reginald McNeill wrote, "To ensure that our students are well nourished, meals will be free for all stu-

dents regardless of meal benefit status for school year 2021-2022. Students will receive both breakfast and lunch in school and a pre-packaged after-school supper meal to take home."

The goal, according to the U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona, is to make sure students can study well. "Students' success in the classroom goes hand in hand with their ability to access basic needs like healthy and nutritious meals," he

said in April 2021. "This program will ensure more students, regardless of their educational setting, can access free, healthy meals as more schools reopen their doors for in-person learning."

Prince George's County Public Schools have posted their menus for September. On the first day of school, elementary school students will have a lunch of chicken fillet hot pocket with steamed broccoli and carrots, plus fruit and milk.



**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**  
**GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Thursday, September 2, 2021**

**A. GHI Closed Meeting – begins at 7:00 p.m. (closed to members and visitors)**

- Approve Minutes of a Closed Meeting held on July 15, 2021
- Contract for Hiring an Engineering Firm to Prepare Construction Plans for Replacing a Retaining Wall and Stairway at 2 Plateau Place - 2nd reading
- Contract for Mini-Split Heat Pump Unit Inspections and Repairs- 2nd reading
- Request by Member to Assign Their Unit to GHI
- Contract for Repairs to a Unit -1st reading
- Discuss Next Steps re: WSSC's Position re: Replacement of Water Supply Piping for Masonry Homes
- Member Financial Matters
- Member Complaint Matter

**B. GDC Open Meeting begins at 7:45 p.m. (open to members and visitors)**

- Approve Minutes of Meeting Held on July 1, 2021
- Board Resolutions re: Signatures on Documents for Bank Accounts
- Review 2nd Quarter 2021 Financial Statements

**C. GHI Open Meeting begins after GDC Meeting (open to members and visitors)**

- Statement re: Board Poll for Approval of Membership Applications on July 30, 2021
- Statement re: Closed Meeting Held on August 12, 2021
- Statement re: Closed Meeting Held on August 19, 2021
- Statement re: Closed Meeting Held on September 2, 2021
- Approve Minutes of the Regular Open Meeting Held on July 15, 2021
- Companion Animal Committee Report for January to July 2021
- Buildings Committee Proposal for a Post-HIP Member Survey
- Discuss Next Steps re: Proposed Solar PVES Pre-paid Power Purchase Agreement
- Review 2nd Quarter 2021 Financial Statements
- Proposed Revisions to GHI Insurance Coverage Policy
- Consider Recommendations in Audit Committee's 2020 Annual Report
- Request the Stormwater Task Force/Architectural Review Committee to Recommend Rules re: Paving of Yards
- Request the Architectural Review Committee to Recommend Rules re: Reconfiguration of Room Layouts in GHI Units
- Proposed Revision of Board Approved List for On-Call Emergency Services
- Public Hearing on the Countywide Map Amendment Scheduled for Monday, September 13, 2021
- Consider Whether to hold a Forum for Greenbelt City Council Candidates
- Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on September 16, 2021

To deter hacking, GHI requires persons who wish to attend the GHI Open session meeting on September 2, 2021, to register in advance by accessing the following link:

**6g**

To request a sign language interpreter for a board meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Regular Board meetings are open to Members  
 For more information, visit our website: [www.ghi.coop](http://www.ghi.coop)

# School Supply Drive

The credit union is collecting supplies and monetary donations at the branch for Kids in Need at Springhill Lake ES. Supplies may also be dropped off at the CO-OP Supermarket.

Find the supply list on the school's webpage.

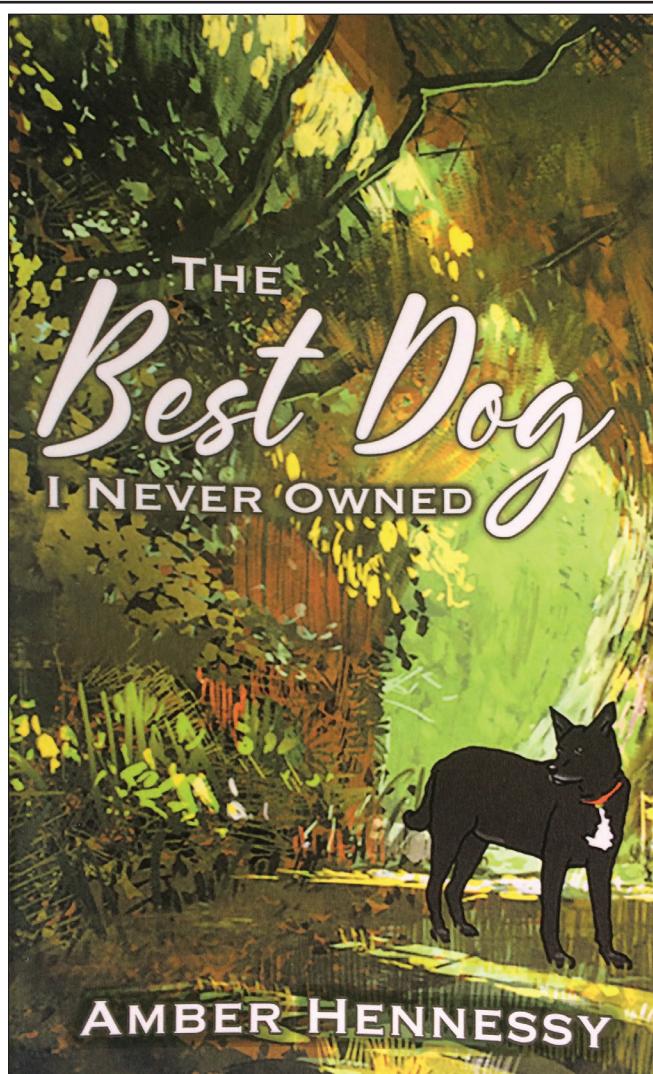
The Best Dog I Never Owned.  
 A story of a dog and his Lady  
 By Amber Hennessy  
 Available at Greenbelt Coop



A Review

## The Best Dog I Never Owned

by Cathie Meetre

Cover art of *The Best Dog I Never Owned*

When you read this debut book by Greenbelter Amber Hennessy, you will gain insight into the depth of the relationship that humans and dogs have. It's the record of a humane human and the dog who became hers, and vice versa.

Hennessy and Baxter are now part of our Greenbelt story – but came here via a perhaps well-trodden path. Baxter was adopted from a D.C. shelter to a first apartment Hennessy shared with friends (briefly, courtesy of Baxter), to independent living downtown, to a place in Takoma Park and finally to Old Greenbelt. The story is heartwarming but not mushy, insightful about relationships between people and among people and dogs. For a non-dog person like this writer, it was a peek into why people and dogs work out so well and also a somewhat saddening realization of what happens when they don't.

Baxter was a shelter dog who arrived with his share of problems, both mental and physical damage. Some of the concerns were perhaps predictable and some had to be inferred or painfully discovered and, like any life, he had his own origin story. It's also the story of his patient Lady, whom he adores, and how they learned to co-exist. Not just a story of Baxter, this is the coming of age of Hennessy herself as she navigates that always heady period of life between college and the future. It's no Lassie Come Home, though Baxter does have his own voice – as one becomes increasingly certain he had in real life. And Hennessy doesn't balk at telling the down-sides.

The book is sometimes very funny but also brings its share of pathos, laughter and tears, realizations, panics and perplexities. It's realistic about the challenges and expenses of taking on a shelter dog and the inevitable sadness and loss as the dog's lifespan

ares and declines so much faster than his Lady's. The running companion of yore can't keep up – while his Lady is still pounding the pavement.

It's tempting to recount some of the laughs, thrills and spills that enliven living with Baxter, but our readers are encouraged to enjoy the story by reading the book for themselves. The book is available on Amazon – search for *Best Dog I Never Owned* by Amber Hennessy – and also in the Greenbelt Co-op grocery store.

## FOOD TRUCK continued from page 1

conjunction with a carnival, fair or similar event which has been issued a temporary use permit from DPIE and complies with all county regulations. Greenbelt Station recently held such an event and the Labor Day Festival is planning to do so as well.

### Local Experiences

Linda Ivy, president of the Labor Day Festival Committee board of directors; Kristen Weaver, chair of the Greenbelt Station Activity Committee, who arranged for the food truck event there; and Charles Jackson, a Greenbelt resident and licensed food truck vendor who operates Good to Da Bone BBQ, shared their experiences.

Weaver said that the process is fairly complicated but the paperwork is doable. The hardest part, she reported, was figuring out what she needed to submit and navigating the DPIE process. She noted that it costs \$160 for the DPIE permit fee and \$120 for the inspection by the fire marshal. There also must be a health inspection. Her experience this year did not discourage the committee, which plans to host a similar event next summer.

Jackson, who participated in the Greenbelt Station event, said he has gotten many calls from Greenbelt residents asking when he is coming back to Greenbelt. Ivy noted that he will be at the Labor Day Festival.

### Council

All of the councilmembers who spoke at the worksession were open to food trucks. Councilmember Emmett Jordan was not present and Councilmember Edward Putens was on the Zoom meeting, but did not express an opinion. Councilmember Rodney Roberts said that the county regulations are denying people the ability to make a living and property owners from hosting a food truck to draw in business. He said the city should try to get the county regulations changed.

No other county regulates food trucks so stringently, he said. Several councilmembers including Mayor Colin Byrd and Judith Davis supported this suggestion.

### Resources

Davis asked whether the Departments of Planning and Community Development and Recreation had the staff available to oversee the event. Hruby said they could probably handle a one-time event. Recreation Director Greg Varda said he would need to investigate this issue and that the police should be involved. Jackson noted that he operates his truck in many locations and has never seen a police presence. Varda noted that Anne Arundel County hosted an event at Kinder Farm Park, which has

a larger parking lot than Schrom Hills Park, but had to shut it down due to overflow crowds. Weaver noted that, at the Greenbelt Station event, police helped direct traffic and took part in the community event but were not otherwise involved.

Davis suggested that Hruby, Varda and Liggins think of ideas for a Greenbelt event. While supporting the idea of a city event, she urged consideration of possible impacts on city businesses, city organizations' fundraising efforts and resident access to convenient parking.

Weaver suggested that the city could help guide organizations interested in hosting a food truck event through the approval process.



### FREE! Monday Matinees

**Monday Sept. 6th - 1pm**

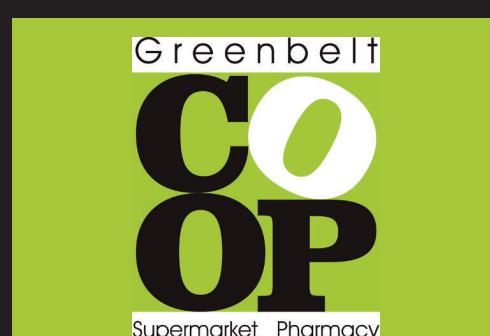
### Gilda 75th Anniversary Screening

Old Greenbelt Theatre  
129 Centerway  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-329-2034

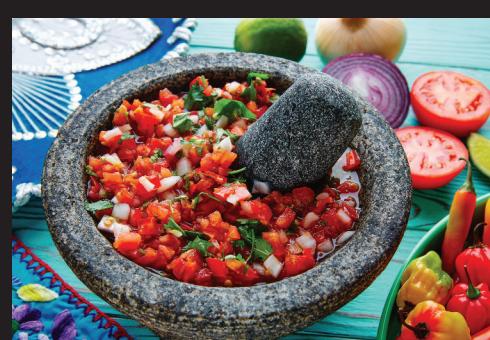
**Audience limited to 75 people.  
Tickets available online only - [greenbelttheatre.org](http://greenbelttheatre.org)**



**Distanced seating throughout.  
Green sticker = open seat  
Red sticker = closed seat**



## PEAK SUMMER FLAVORS!

*Something for Everyone!*[www.greenbelt.coop](http://www.greenbelt.coop)

Come visit Co-op over at the  
**New Deal Café**  
**Coffee Drinks & Smoothies**  
**Bagels & Baked Goods**  
Open: Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.



## SRO Program to Continue; Council Funds B&G Club

by Diane Oberg

At its August 9 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council approved an agreement to continue the School Resource Officer (SRO) program under which the city police department provides a sworn officer to Eleanor Roosevelt High School, approved funding for the Boys and Girls Club, received several petitions including one calling for a pay increase for non-classified employees, approved the purchase of 10 vehicles and congratulated Dinah Cohen and Noah Bruce Cohen-Mitchell who received scholarships from the Greenbelt Lions Club.

### School Officer

On a 6 to 1 vote with Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposed, council approved a memorandum of understanding with Prince George's County Public Schools to resume the School Resource Officer program. The county reimburses the city for its expenditures up to a maximum of \$80,000. Mayor Colin Byrd made the motion, stating that he was supporting this program because of his respect for the current SRO Michael Thomas. Roberts opposed the motion because the officer is armed. Barring that, he said he would have supported the program.

### Boys & Girls

Council unanimously approved the recommendation of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) to fund the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club with \$15,000 in the current fiscal year. Normally such requests are considered as part of the budget process, but the club's request was submitted too late for that. As this is not the first time the club has been late with its request, PRAB recommended that the funding be conditioned upon the club agreeing to submit any Fiscal Year 2023 request on time and, failing that, for council to request an audit of the club. That last condition was not accepted by council. Councilmember Judith Davis noted that audits are expensive and that the Boys and Girls Club should not be singled out.

Club President Orin Howard noted that the request had been late due to uncertainty about whether there would be a Boys and Girls Club this year. Challenges included county Covid-19 restrictions and the murders of two of its coaches over the past several years. He noted that the club had not been able to offer any sports during Fiscal Year 2021 but said that the club is planning to offer whatever sports are permitted by the county this year. They have been able to offer cheerleading and he expects to offer basketball and football, although they are having difficulties attracting sufficient volunteers. They will, of course, institute sanitation and distancing measures against the coronavirus. For example, they have added face shields to the football helmets.

### Petitions

Jonathan Schnurr, a pool manager at the Aquatic & Fitness Center, presented a petition calling for a pay raise for the city's non-classified employees, who, he said, had not had a raise since 2019. He said that coronavirus

countermeasures, such as extra cleaning, have increased the staff's workload, and that other pools are paying higher wages (though no other municipal pools were cited). He noted that the department has had to close the indoor pool occasionally for lack of staff, which he viewed as evidence that the city was not paying enough to attract sufficient employees. He called for a raise of 1.5 percent with a 2-percent annual increase. Later in the meeting, City Manager Nicole Ard reported that Schnurr's director has been advocating for a pay raise and is working on a plan.

Lore Rosenthal recapped the resources for those facing eviction or foreclosure that she also provided in her letter to the editor in the News Review issue of August 5. Ard noted that anyone interested in seeking county assistance could call 211. Rosenthal later asked for the Zoom chat function to be restored to council meetings so that citizens not comfortable with public speaking could make their comments in writing.

### Other Actions

Councilmember Silke Pope reported that the city Information Technology Department is working to arrange for an external audit of its computer systems. While she has been seeking this for several years, she said, with the surge in ransomware attacks it is critical that the city do it now.

Council unanimously approved the purchase of multiple vehicles for the police, planning and public works departments at a total cost of \$513,960. Davis pointed out that the city had purchased no vehicles during the past fiscal year and that all purchases were within the budget approved by council.

**NR** For profit?  
**(But Not Much)**  
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Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA Implementing Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and NASA NEPA procedures (14 CFR Part 1216 Subpart 1216.3) NASA has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the proposed implementation of the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Greenbelt Campus Master Plan. The GSFC Greenbelt Campus Master Plan would be implemented over a 20-year period during which time numerous buildings would be demolished, constructed, and renovated and general infrastructure maintenance and improvement activities would continue throughout the installation. NASA would explore different options for some excess buildings and land areas to include divesting land, divesting buildings, and potential future partnerships with non-NASA entities.

The FONSI along with the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) which supports the FONSI can be viewed at:  
<https://code200-external.gsfc.nasa.gov/250/node/122>.

For further information or questions regarding the Final EA and FONSI contact: Lizabeth Montgomery via email at [lizabeth.r.montgomery@nasa.gov](mailto:lizabeth.r.montgomery@nasa.gov) or via postal mail at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 250, 8800 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20771. Due to the current situation with COVID19 email is preferred.

Limited hard copies of the Final EA and FONSI are available by contacting Lizabeth Montgomery at the address indicated above.

## Co-op's Solar Roof Venture Looks Like a Humdinger Win

by Cathie Meetre



An aerial view of the Co-op's roof emphasizes that every inch is working hard to power the store.

On August 3, Bill Jones, chair of the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket board of directors, wrote a note to the board. It announced that, as of the end of July, the new solar array atop the store's roof had produced 144,000 kilowatt-hours (kWhs) of energy. At 14 cents per kWh, that is over \$20,000 saved on the Pepco bill. Jones reports that, "June and July each had a little over 30,000 kWh generated." The email also pointed out that the total electricity savings should be close to \$40,000 per year and that the corresponding Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs), would likely be sold for about half as much as the energy savings themselves.

With the current SREC price at ~\$71 per megawatt-hours, the 144,000 kWh by the end of July is 144 SRECs, which would net \$10K in additional savings. This means the array/roof payback is likely to be \$60,000, instead of the more conservative \$35,000 estimate used in the fundraising campaign.

### A Wish Come True

At the end of 2018, the Co-op was facing a severely compromised roof that frequently deluged its offices with rain water. Even though the Co-op rents the store, it is responsible for all upkeep. It had accumulated a history of barely making the grade financially and was in no position to spend an estimated \$400,000 on its roof.

Fortunately, Co-op's forward-looking response to this growing problem was to initiate a quest to replace the roof and simultaneously install a solar array to offset rising energy costs. The Co-op uses a lot of electricity – especially for refrigeration. The

fact that a new roof was implicit in the mounting of a solar array was not lost on the board.

The Co-op board launched a fundraising effort and a grant quest in an optimistic and energetic program to fulfill their plan. With significant assistance from a small group of supporters beyond the board – notably Dorrie Bates, who tackled the funding, and Steve Skolnik, who was the project manager – a fast forward to 2021, pandemic notwithstanding, reveals a Co-op with a new array, a well-insulated new roof and a much healthier balance sheet.

### A Community Victory

The Greenbelt community played a key role in raising the funds that convinced the Maryland state legislature that the project had local backing. By raising around \$400,000 in individual loans and donations during the Rays on the Roof campaign, Greenbelt put the pedal to the metal in demonstrating its commitment to the Co-op.

The state legislature responded with a \$350,000 grant. Skolnik coordinated the efforts of Adelphia as the roofing contractor and Sustainable Energy Systems

as the array provider to bring the project to a successful conclusion in February 2021. The actual performance of the array and the roof will keep the store well ahead of its projected repayment schedule to community lenders, and the surplus after repayments are met will also help it sustain a healthy bottom line.

### A Fiscal Sigh of Relief

For the last few decades, the Co-op has hovered on the margin of breaking even. The anticipated \$60K annually from the array would often have been enough to turn defeat into victory. While the challenges of running a grocery store in an era of big box, cut-price competition remain a tough proposition, Co-op has successfully seized control of at least part of its destiny. The renewed focus on local shopping and the increased sense of security and wide choices offered by a comfortably sized local full-service store with a wide array of choices also work in its favor.

With an active new manager and its new association with the New Deal Café, there is hope not merely that the Co-op can survive, but that it can flourish.

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PHOTO COURTESY SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

## Resources for Veterans Posted on City Website

by Julie Rapp

Events in Afghanistan have prompted strong reactions from a multitude of fronts, which have caused the City of Greenbelt to post a bulletin of resources for veterans.

"Veterans from all eras are reacting to the events in Afghanistan, such as the U.S. withdrawal and the takeover by the Taliban," the bulletin stated. Common reactions, according to the bulletin, may range from sadness to grief or anger and feelings of betrayal. Current events may provoke memories or increase symptoms of post-traumatic stress

disorder (PTSD). The bulletin reminds individuals who may be overwhelmed with these feelings "to let yourself feel these feelings rather than trying to avoid them. Often these feelings will run their course but if not it is important to remember to focus on the present and to engage in meaningful activities."

The bulletin adds that these strategies will not change the past but can help reduce stress.

More suggestions and resources can be found at [greenbeltdmd.gov/home/news](http://greenbeltdmd.gov/home/news).

## REPARATIONS continued from page 1

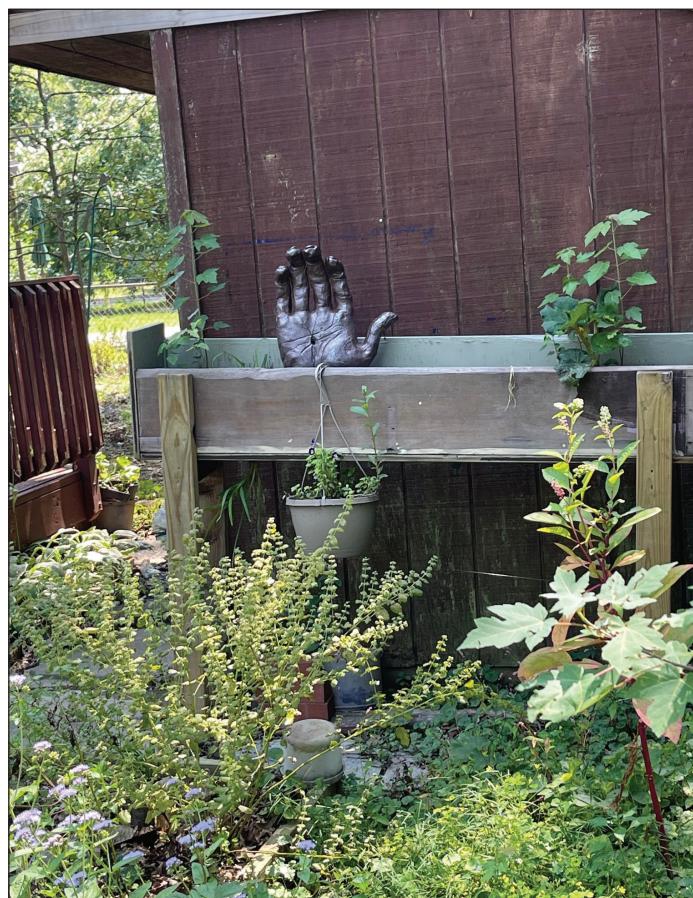
There was very little discussion of the referendum resolution at the August 9 meeting, just three councilmembers explaining their votes. Councilmember Emmett Jordan supported the resolution but wished it had been framed more broadly such as an equality, inclusiveness and diversity task force with reparations within its scope. He felt such a framing would be more likely to win approval.

Councilmember Silke Pope said she could not support the resolution. While she did not like the wording and felt it should be broader, her main concern was that reparations should be

a federal issue. It is too much for a city to take on. She argued that there is a lot of research that needs to be done. She also wondered how the process would be managed and called for a plan of how this could be done.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts supported the resolution and pointed out that the resolution does not say whether or not the city should issue reparations. It only authorizes a committee to look at the issue, he noted.

Councilmember Judith Davis supported the resolution since it lets residents weigh in rather than council making the decision.



An artist raises a hand at 1 Court, Northway.

PHOTO BY JULIE PHELPS



Greenbelt public works crew resets a crosswalk on Crescent Road after the road was repaved in mid August.

PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN



## Just Listed in Greenbelt



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## Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police). Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

### Shooting

August 14, 6:22 p.m., 6110 Breezewood Court. Four people were observed standing outside of a building when one of them fired four or five shots. There was no known cause and no one was struck by gunfire.

### Indecent Exposure

August 18, 2:10 p.m., 6305 Ivy Lane. Personal property was taken from an office work site.

### Vandalism

August 18, 3:09 p.m., 100 Centerway. An indecent exposure took place.

### Vehicle Crime

August 15, 10:33 a.m., 5823 Cherrywood Lane. A front door was damaged.

August 15, 5:59 p.m., 5914 Cherrywood Terrace. A window in an apartment was broken.

August 18, 8:46 p.m., 7812 Hanover Parkway. A postal package was stolen.

### Drug Tip Line

Three handicap placards were stolen from 5817 Cherrywood

Lane and 6227 Springhill Court after windows were broken to gain access.

Registration stickers were stolen from rear tags at 5823 Cherrywood Lane and 6000 Springhill Drive.

A laptop computer was taken from an unsecured vehicle at 7200 Hanover Parkway.

Windows were broken in three vehicles at 9010 Breezewood Terrace and 6005 and 6008 Springhill Drive.

Tires were damaged at 6202 Breezewood Drive, and at 6216 Breezewood Drive both drivers' side tires were slashed and scratches made on all four sides of the car.

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# Sports

## Return to High School Sports: Anticipation, Some Caution

by Patrick Gleason



Jada Savage, Sadie Swart, and AG Higgins are part of a 15-member freshmen soccer class at ERHS.

High school sports have returned to local fields and courts this summer with a plethora of student-athletes eager to regain a lost season. The coronavirus pandemic wiped out high school sports from the spring of 2020 through early spring of 2021. After missing the entire 2020-21 season, football, soccer, cross country, volleyball and cheerleading teams are searching for their routine and rhythm after fall sport tryouts began on Wednesday, August 11.

Many athletes, coaches and parents at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) have anticipated the return to the field, though Vanderlei Martins, whose daughter plays goalkeeper for the ERHS soccer team, urges "a word of caution." Martins believes the return has been important for the mental well-being of student-athletes but does worry about younger siblings who have not yet been vaccinated. ERHS Girls Soccer Assistant Coach Ashleigh Jacobs has not feared "people catching or spreading" the coronavirus, but has found new challenges due to the pandemic. Jacobs believes both players and coaches currently lack "the social skills to perform at our highest ability" after over a year at home; however, she does think she is doing

"better than expected."

Building team unity and rapport will continue to be a process for each team since, according to Jacobs, "sophomores are basically incoming freshmen." Moreover, teams will have to account for losing two graduating classes of players – the ERHS girls soccer team is replacing 15 graduated players from the last two years. Passing by the ERHS turf field and track, the familiar sounds of the high school world have returned, whether it be the cadences of the cheerleaders or the adolescent exuberance of the football team after an especially exciting play.

Right now, each team has a full schedule, set to begin in early September. The football team kicks off at Oxon Hill on Friday, September 3, while both soccer teams begin with tournaments on Saturday, September 4; the girls will be at Montgomery Blair High School, while the boys travel to Arundel High School. The volleyball team begins play on Friday, September 10. Though all involved anticipate the first contests since the fall of 2019, there is still an air of caution permeating the season. The words of a parent put it best as Martins reminds us that "we all have to be vigilant."



Freshman Nikki Lilja works on her touch at a summer practice.

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## LABOR DAY continued from page 1

service on Saturday on the hill behind the Mother and Child statue will honor friends and relatives who have died but are remembered together.

The Museum will sponsor a Retro Town Fair on Sunday and award prize ribbons in a number of

traditional homemaking categories.

Live performances on the stage will include the ever-popular Relics and also Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes.

The Art Show and Photography Shows will be virtual this year.



Tour de Greenbelt bikers pose after the Labor Day tour in 2019.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA CUMMINGS



K'Lah Morgan (16) performs with the Greenbelt S.I.T.Y. Stars in 2019.

The Parade marches down Crescent Road on Labor Day in 2018.



PHOTO BY MEGAN SEARING YOUNG

### City Election

## Time to Register Now to Vote In the Coming City Elections

by Kathleen Gallagher

There are more ways to vote in this year's city council election than ever before, but before tackling those choices, be sure that you're registered to vote. Even signing a petition in support of someone running for office requires being registered with Prince George's County at a resident address within the boundaries of the City of Greenbelt.

People who are not sure if they are registered, or who want to be, or who just want to have some fun looking themselves up, can check their status through the county website.

For those not already registered, Monday, October 4 will be the last day to register to be eligible to vote in the November city election. To be able to register and vote in this election, one must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of Greenbelt and 16 years old by election day. This deadline also applies to making changes to one's name or address on the voter list.

Anyone who wishes to verify that they are properly registered can either call the County Board of Elections at 301-342-7300 or look up their registration through the county website at [princegeorgescountymd.gov/559/Board-of-Elections](http://princegeorgescountymd.gov/559/Board-of-Elections). Choose Voter Information, then click on Voter Lookup. While this information will confirm the details of their



This postcard encourages Greenbelters to vote by mail.

registration, voters should be aware that the polling place listed for them on this site will in most cases not apply to a city election.

Individuals found by the court to be incapable of voting because of mental disability may not register. No one who has been found guilty of buying or selling votes may register.

Otherwise-qualified students who may be living out of town are eligible to register if they consider the City of Greenbelt to be their legal address or domicile.

There are now so many ways to register to vote that it is almost easier to do it than to think of a reason not to. Registration may be done online, by mail or in person. For anyone holding a Maryland driver's license or a substitute Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration-issued ID

Card, an easy way to register is on the State Board of Elections website using Maryland's Online Voter Registration System (OLVR).

Anyone who has neither a Maryland driver's license nor a substitute Maryland ID card must complete a paper voter registration form and either mail it to the County

Board of Elections or submit it in person at the office of the County Board at 1100 Mercantile Lane, #115-A, Largo, by the deadline.

Greenbelt city elections are nonpartisan, which means there are no primary elections and no candidate party designations or slates. In registering to vote, however, a resident has the option of registering with any of the state's recognized political parties.

Within two weeks of registration or updating an address or name, one should receive a Voter's Notification Card by mail. This card lists the voter's polling place, the various districts (congressional, legislative, county council and school board) in which the voter resides. If no Voter's Notification Card has been received within two weeks, call the Board of Elections at 301-341-7300.

## Zero Waste Circle Promotes An Eco-Friendly Supermarket

by John Campanile

The Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket's Dan Gillotte has been the general manager for some 18 months. During his tenure, he has brought about many changes to the Co-op, including efforts to stock more organic produce and eco-friendly products. Recently, members of Greenbelt's Zero Waste Circle met with Gillotte to review the "greening up" of the Co-op and to discuss further steps.

First topic was bags – paper or plastic. Gillotte pointed out that paper bags cost four times more than plastic. However, he is considering the option of using plant-based bags once the Co-op's considerable supply of plastic bags is used up. He is also looking into paper bags with handles, but the pandemic has affected supplies, so the Co-op will continue to suggest patrons bring their own reusable bags. There was a time when the Co-op provided customers with plastic bag recycling barrels, but that was discontinued once it was learned that the bags ended up in landfills or were incinerated.

The Zero Waste Circle also

suggested stocking more bamboo paper products. Presently the Co-op carries bamboo clean wipes, as well as Seventh Generation products that are made from recycled paper.

While in Austin, Texas, Gillotte ran a successful food recovery program, sending usable food to pantries. Prince George's County may soon initiate its own food recovery program. Gillotte believes customers base their feeling of grocery stores on how their produce department looks. "Ugly" produce, although edible, gives a bad impression.

The Zero Waste Circle would like Gillotte to adopt the use of cardboard and plastics that can be recycled in packaging products. Currently, styrofoam is used to package meats and fish as there are no other viable alternatives for now.

Overall, the Zero Waste Circle would like to see a continued focus on green products and practices. Gillotte pointed out that those currently in practice are mentioned regularly in his Wednesday e-newsletter.